is a difference in the shape of the two letters; for the Gamma is made like an L with the lower arm at the top, thus: Γ. The G is made quite otherwise, & therefore it is purely a Latin letter. So, then, when a right Gamma is placed on another Gamma, we shall have our letter F, which is, as I have said, called by Priscian & other good authors, Digamma. Furthermore, it is called the Æolic Digamma, because the Æolians, who were among the most eminent nations of Greece, had it in frequent use, even the poets, as Priscian proves in his said first book, when he quotes the poet Alcman as saying: Και χειμα πυρτε δαϝιον; and when he quotes the epigram that he saw and read in the dry valley near Constantinople, the which dry valley he calls in Greek Χερολοφον. In the epitaph were the words: Ορναϝον Δημοϝων σαϝα καϝιων.* I find that the very ancient Latins often wrote F instead of V consonant; as in writing *Folfo* and *Fifo,* for *Volvo* and *Vivo.* As you can see in the ancient epitaph found at Lyons, in a vineyard. The said epitaph, as I have been told, is as follows:—

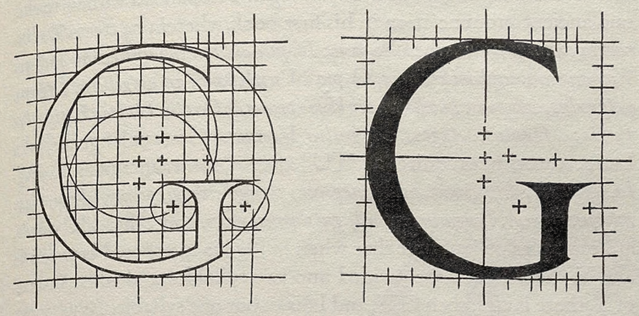
* *Priscian*, I, IV, 21. 47

ALIARTOS F. GELIDVS OPTVMVS
INSVLANVS QVOI MAXVMA VIRTVS.
HAIC LABOR BACCHICOLAI
QVAE CASTOR APVD ME CYMNERIIS
IN TENEBRIS CONDITA IACENT.
CAECVTIENTEIS OMNEIS
NOSTRATEIS
PRAITEREVNT. AGEDVM SAXA
LABORE FOLFITE HERCVLEO.
COMMVNIS EST MERCVRIVS, ET
DEXTRO HERCVLE IVPPITERIS
SENISSIMI CEREBRVM EFFODIETIS.
NIHIL SACRVM, CVLMOS
EXCVTIETIS
NAVCIFACIENDOS QVOM APYNAE
SINT ET TRICAE, AT AEDEPOL
ΚΟΙΝΑ ΦΙΛΩΝ ΠΑΝΤΑ.
ANNO MILLENO SEPTENO.
NEOMENIIS ROMANIS.

Herein there is the word *Folfite,* when it is said: *Agedum saxa labore folfite herculeo.* Many other examples may be seen in the book of *Epitaphs of Ancient Rome,* which I saw printed when I was in Rome.

THE Germans have the habit of pronouncing, and not of writing, F for V consonant, at least when they speak in Latin. If they would say, *Ego bibi vinum vetus,* they pronounce it, *Eio bibi finum fetus;* and this manner of pronunciation is peculiar to them, and vulgar, for the Latins, whom they ought to follow, do not pronounce it thus. It would seem that the Germans hold to this pronunciation because Priscian has written in his first book: *Habet autem hæc* F *litera hunc sonum quem nunc habet* V *loco consonantis posita.** * I, III, 12. 48

MArtianus Capella shows us how to pronounce F properly when he says: F *dentes labrum inferius deprimentes lingua palatoque dulcescit.* 'F,' he says, 'is uttered softly with the tongue touching the palate, and the teeth pressing slightly on the lower lip.'



THE letter G here drawn, & made from the O & the I truncated, is nine & a half units in breadth, & requires for its fashioning eight turns of the compass, for which reason I have marked eight centres in their proper places. Master Simon Hayeneufve, who is commonly called Master Simon du Mans,† makes at the foot of the short leg of the G a small half-circle, which gives it a very graceful aspect; but I have seen it in the Galleries of Pope Julius the Second, between the palace of St. Peter and the Belvedere, cut straight up & down;‡ make it, therefore, as you please. This Master Simon is the greatest and most excellent craftsman in ancient architecture now living, that I know. He is a man of the church and of goodly life, gracious, and ready to serve one and

† *See Note* 29.

‡ '*Coupe a perpendicule*'; *that is, as shown in the drawings, on the inner side.*

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